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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift

Multi-ethnic Migration in Northwest China

Settlement Intentions, Family Strategies, Acculturation and Power Negotiations

Bo Zhang

1. Given the broad attention to rural-urban migration in Academia in the past four decades, it is noteworthy that there is little research on the migrants with different ethnic backgrounds in China's multi-ethnic regions (this thesis);
2. The studies of migration of ethnic minorities should be rooted in different socio-cultural contexts and geographical spaces (this thesis);
3. For a better understanding of both the fix and flow of ethnic identity in the migration process, new frameworks established for cultural geography should better be based on a combination of both universalist and interpretive approaches (this thesis);
4. Ethnic communities are important agencies for minority migrants to minimize risks of unemployment, to improve their livelihoods and to foster the settlement of their families (this thesis);
5. In China, Han Chinese are depicted as "civilized" and "advanced," while minorities are portrayed as "primitive" and "backward" (Gladney 1994). How the ongoing ethnic identity negotiation influences migrants' acculturation is therefore important in the face of these stereotypes (this thesis);
6. In search of the relationships between bonding and bridging capital of minority migrants, we find that the accumulation of bonding capital does not necessarily indicate the increase or decrease of bridging capital (this thesis);
7. With the increasing knowledge of our spatial understanding of geographical place, migration behaviors should not be seen as simply a physical movement but rather should be situated in the framework of mobility and power relations (this thesis);
8. Doing a PhD is to create your own academic space, in which only few others are invited; a PhD defense is therefore an invitation you send to all the others to enter into your academic space and celebrate it.